

National Stage of PCT/EP2003/005068
Attorney Docket No. M1211/20018
Preliminary Amendment Dated December 16, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this Amendment, the specification is amended, claims 1 - 28 are amended. Claims 1-28 are pending. An Abstract is attached on a separate sheet. No new matter is added.

This Amendment is submitted to better conform the application to United States practice by, *inter alia*, eliminating multiple dependencies from the claims and adding section headings to the specification.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is in good form for initial examination on the merits. Accordingly, prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for initial examination and allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

CAESAR, RIVISE, BERNSTEIN,
COHEN & POKOTILOW, LTD.

By Frank Linguiti

Frank M. Linguiti
Registration No. 32,424
Customer No. 03000
(215) 567-2010
Attorneys for Applicants

December 15, 2004

Please charge or credit our
Account No. 03-0075 as necessary
to effect entry and/or ensure
consideration of this submission.